

AVERAGE DOLLAR EXPENDITURE PER PUPIL

NOTES



SEE
SUPPLEMENTAL
TABLES FOR
ADDITIONAL
DATA

STATEWIDE:
The National
School Boards
Association
estimated a 22%
increase in
California's
average per pupil
expenditure
between 1994/95
and 1999/00,
\$4,799 to \$5,832.

NATIONWIDE:
The national
average per pupil
expenditure has
risen 8% between
1994/95 and
1999/00, going
from \$6,084 to
\$6,585.

**RELATED
INDICATORS:**
• 4th Grade Stanford
9 Reading/Math
Scores
• SAT 1 & College
Readiness

DATA SOURCE:
Orange County
Department of
Education, District
J-385 Reports

NOTES:
¹The State of
America's
Children
Yearbook, 2000

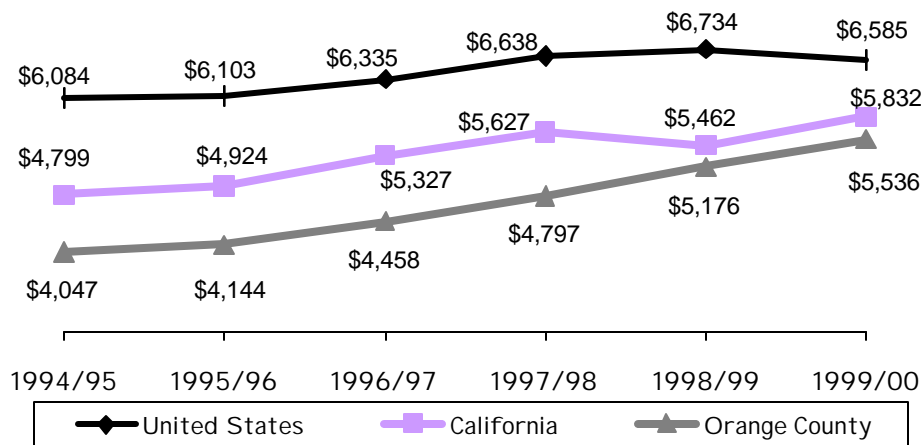
Indicator

Annual expenditures for each pupil based on average daily attendance

Definition

The current annual expenditures for public elementary and secondary schools for each pupil in average daily attendance during the school year.

Average Dollar Expenditure per Pupil



Findings

During 1999/00, the average per pupil expenditure in Orange County was \$5,536.

Trends

Since 1994/95, there has been a 37% increase in the County's average per pupil expenditure. Despite this noticeable growth, these figures are consistently below the national and State averages. In part, it reflects Orange County's lower categorical assistance relative to other counties and legislatively established revenue limits in 1972.

Implications

Per pupil expenditure is significantly influenced by the Proposition 98 formula, established in 1988, that requires a specific minimum percent of State spending to go to education. Hence, increases in recent years are due primarily to increases in State revenues and the improved State economy. Additionally, a major cause of school funding inequalities is the heavy reliance on local property taxes for education funding. Wealthier districts generate ample tax revenue for school funding, yet in poorer districts, property tax revenues do not come close to meeting the funding need. Moreover, these districts often require higher per pupil spending because of the negative impact poverty has on a student's school readiness.¹

SUPPLEMENTAL TABLES: EDUCATION

Indicator

Average Dollar Expenditure per Pupil

Orange County Average Expenditure Per Pupil (Kindergarten through 12th Grade)

Expenditures	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Elementary Average	\$3,814	\$3,966	\$4,277	\$4,663	\$5,031	\$5,395
High School Average	4,665	4,767	4,931	5,215	5,662	5,888
Unified District Average	4,013	4,092	4,432	4,767	5,137	5,520
Orange County (K-12) Average	4,047	4,144	4,458	4,797	5,176	5,536
California Average	4,319	4,977	5,327	5,627	5,462	5,832

Source: Orange County Department of Education, 1994/95, 1996/97, 1998/99 figures updated by OCDE, June 2000.